

REMARKS

In response to the Election Requirement dated November 26, 2002 (Paper No. 18), the period for reply to which extends through December 26, 2002, Applicants hereby elect **without traverse** the invention identified in the Office Action as Group I, claims 1-18, drawn to a method of sequencing.

Commensurate with this election, Applicants have canceled all pending claims and replaced them with an embodiment of the elected group which is related to the invention set forth in original claim 10. Support for this amendment can be found throughout the specification, for example in claims 10-13 and at pages 23-24 as originally filed. Applicants respectfully submit that no prohibited new matter has been introduced by this amendment. An action on the merits is requested.

Applicants believe that no fees are required with this filing, however, **except** for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP



F. Pierre Vander Vegt, Reg. No. 49,088
for Michael S. Tuscan, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 43,210

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CUSTOMER NO. 009629
MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20004
202.739.3000 (voice)
202.739.3001 (fax)